“God may let them live secure, and keeps an eye on them all the time.”
Job 24:23
"I AM WITH YOU IN SPIRIT, REJOICING TO SEE YOUR GOOD DISCIPLINE AND THE STABILITY OF YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST."

COLOSSIANS 2:5

Have you ever had your daily routine completely disrupted?

It’s the kind of day where no matter what you do to correct the disruption, everything continues to go ‘downhill’. One thing is for sure, when you ‘survive’ such a day, you can’t wait to get home, close the door and do your best to recover hoping tomorrow will be better.

Now. Imagine for a moment this kind of day is your every day.

A completely disrupted day is quite possibly what most people living in poverty and those who are homeless actively experience each day. You can imagine can’t you when the exhaustion of your single day of disruption becomes a living nightmare when lived day after day.

Here’s what you have done for 71 years in NW Ohio and SE Michigan; support the thousands of men, women and children who have found their way to one of the many doors of Cherry Street.

At Cherry Street, the days of disruption become less frequent, less horrific, less disabling.

When you pray, share your time and support financially Cherry Street you provide an environment of stability where people see themselves one day as secure and hopeful.

Thank you!

PS. To connect with me for a tour, or any other question, please contact me at danrogers@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3007.

DAN ROGERS
PRESIDENT AND CEO
CHERRY STREET MISSION MINISTRIES

Photo © Jim Rohman
“Life has been so awesome and I owe it all to Cherry Street Mission. Because if I wouldn’t have gone to Sparrow’s Nest, I never would have gotten hooked up with A Renewed Mind. Since I came from an abusive relationship it’s a good thing to have a therapist,” said Cindy.

Cindy left her long term relationship after over a decade of abuse. Her spirit was broken with her broken body. Cindy spent those years in isolation. Leaving that relationship was one of the scariest moments in her life.

But now Cindy doesn’t live in fear. After 15 months staying at Cherry Street, Cindy got an apartment of her own. She lives in the spirit of freedom and stability. “I love it because I can go out and visit. It’s such freedom to be on my own,” Cindy said, “I can read, do my puzzle and just do me.”

Cindy has also been spending this re-building time discovering what she likes. Cindy thought she spent so much time under the thumb and rule of another person she lost sight of herself. “I thought I liked jazz. Actually, he liked jazz. I discovered I hate jazz”. In her new independence, Cindy is trying new music and just tried painting pictures at a community center close to home. Going to church is a part of her routine and staying engaged with others. “I can be who I want to be. I can choose a whole new life. It’s awesome,’ she says.

She returns to Cherry Street’s Life Revitalization Center for her appointments at A Renewed Mind, “It’s good to see people from Cherry Street”, Cindy says. In working on her stabilization Cindy is interested in volunteering, working with people, rediscovering her enjoyment in the arts and doing crafts. Working with guests while they stay at housing provided by Cherry Street or come to the Mac Street Café is only the beginning of when a life starts working. Cherry Street keeps working with former guests toward life stability and full restoration to God’s plans.

“God has blessed me so thoroughly,” said Cindy.
How does anyone define their life as a successful one? If you had a checklist, what would be on it? Cherry Street’s objective with all who come to our doors for help and restoration is to meet them where they are at and to walk down the path with them. No two paths are the same. While humans focus on the length of time it takes to walk down the path—time has no existence for God. Checklists full of fame and fortune has no value to God. John is a reflection of redemption, demonstrating grace and giving thanks.

Most who meet John sense his sincerity and his earnestness. John has been to prison. He has been in dark times. He has made bad decisions. Through the blood of Jesus, John has been forgiven. In his pursuit of a deeper relationship with God and his fellow humans John has his own checklist for success.

Pursue the Great Commission – As Christian we are all called to witness to others what could be possible at the foot of the cross. John takes that to heart. John says, “I would see people who I was like, “Is that person even going to church?” So, I go up to him and ask him, “Hey, are you going to church this Sunday? Some of them would say, “No.” I’m like, “Would you like to?” “Yes, I think I would.” “Good. I know a place. Like in one week, I was bringing in eight to nine people from Cherry Street. My pastor saw this, and he was like, “Man, what are you doing over there?” I said, “I’m trying to demonstrate grace.” The main way that I’ve grown in that is getting involved. If we don’t get involved in our faith, if all we do is go to church and sit through a sermon, then we’re not doing enough. God expects us to step up not to a place where we feel obligated to do it, but if we really love God, then we’d demonstrate it in our faith. We’d demonstrate it by seeing the needs of the next person and then asking them, “Look, how can I help you?”

Be Thankful – Having a heart of gratitude is one of the ways John keeps looking forward, encouraged in the love God has for him. John says, “during Thanksgiving, during our church service, one of the key projects that they did was they bought Thank You cards for the whole entire congregation, and they had us write our Thank You cards to God. What I did with mine, I put mine on my refrigerator. My parole officer was making a visit to my house, and he saw the Thank You card. He was like, “What’s the Thank You card for?” I said, “Here, read it.” He read it, and he was like, “Wow, that’s cool.”
I said, “Yes.” That was one way I could witness my parole officer what I talk about, I live. I leave it on my refrigerator because then it reminds me when I’m not so grateful. When I’m not so thankful, I look at the card and I’m like, “Oh, thank You.”

Seek The Lord – The day to day struggles and other humans who would still like to pass judgment on John can be difficult. John keeps his eyes on God and his soul in tune with The Word. John says, “I think that’s important. It is because if you don’t become busy about the things of God, you’re going to become stagnant, and if you become stagnant, that’s a dangerous place to be in. At least in my eyes - this may not be in His eyes, I’m not sure – but if you become stagnant, it’s almost as if you were never born again because you become so entrenched in just everyday life. It becomes where we almost forget about God because we feel like we’re okay. We’re really not okay. [Laughter] We may have taken care of one problem, but if we’re not careful, then another one’s going to surface, and then you’d have to attend to that problem. It’s a continual thing. It’s day by day.”

Stable In Healthy Relationships – Those who come to Cherry Street are not actually in poverty for mere food. A family member could provide food. It’s a poverty of relationships that is the root of homelessness. Often those who come to Cherry Street must form new relationships from a new place of health or realign themselves in existing relationships to gain health.

John knows his success pivots on this particular point. John says, “Actually, when I was still incarcerated, I knew I was coming to the Toledo area. I asked my chaplain, and I said, “Look, I’m going to this area. I don’t have any idea of where anything’s at.” I said, “I need to find a home church.” It’s absolutely essential, and I knew it was that big of a deal because while I was in prison they stressed that. They were like, “Look, before you get out, make sure you have a home church.” That was the first step I was going to take, making sure I had a good home church with a pastor that really cares and listens to what’s going on in your life. It’s funny because in my discussions with my pastor, all the time he’s asking me, he says, “John, what can we do to help you?” “Almost every time, I go to someone else. I tend to focus on what other people need.” He comes back, and he’s like, “No. What do you need?” John went on to explain his relationships at Cherry Street, “After being incarcerated for so long, it’s a big adjustment, adjusting to living by yourself. That’s been my biggest trouble lately, living alone. A lot of people from my church are helping me out as far as giving me recipes, cookware, all that kind of stuff, and trying to encourage me to cook. I do, from time to time, come for the meals here at Cherry Street. Those are pretty important especially when it comes to helping the homeless and encouraging them to really take care of themselves. Cherry Street does a lot of encouraging.”

Pursue God’s Vision – Everyone’s life takes a different route with different stops along the way. John knows his life is in God’s hands. John says, “I’m not content being unemployed, but I see God working through me in that if I can put aside the unemployment for a moment in time and begin to focus on what other people need and serving them, then I’m doing what God’s asking me to do.” John has been able to participate in several Bible studies and classes to build up his life. He said, “All these programs link together. When you did them, together and not just taking one and just saying, “Oh, I’m good now.” It’s a growth process. Our walk with Christ is a continual thing. It’s progressive. You can’t just say, “Well, I’ve learned all I can learn. “No, you haven’t. That’s something that I’ve learned.”

John has left Cherry Street. John is now working, has a home of his own, a church home and keeps working on his checklist for success.

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JOHN’S CHECKLIST FOR SUCCESS

- PURSUE THE GREAT COMMISSION
- BE THANKFUL
- SEEK THE LORD
- STABLE IN HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
- PURSUE GOD’S VISION
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Performances by
Ramona Collins
Pat Lewandowski
Kim Beuhler
Just Kiddin’ Around with Chuck and Elisa Hagge
One Spirit Gospel Group

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8
7-9 pm. • $25

At Cherry Street’s Life Revitalization Center
1501 Monroe Street • Toledo OH 43604

Call 419.214.3008 for details
Buy your tickets today at cherrystreetmission.org

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT—SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH!

The sixth annual Christmas Concert to benefit Cherry Street will be presented by the Owens Community College Concert Band. This event is always a wonderful time of celebrating the season of our Savior’s birth. You can count on an amazing performance!

There is no charge for the concert. Donations will be accepted and complimentary refreshments will be served following the concert. Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 9th at 2:30 p.m. You won’t want to miss this fun and festive Christmas event!

Owens Community College
Center for Performing Arts Theater
30335 Oregon Road • Perrysburg, OH 43551

“I’ve always wanted to do this. I was a teacher in the public schools and in private schools. But I always enjoyed being able to share my faith as opposed to keeping it a secret like I had to in the public schools.”

Michelle was a non-traditional student, starting her higher education path later in life. By the age of 60 she was starting a new teaching career. She admits teaching high school was not for her. “I was not a great high school teacher. I’m too kind. You have to hold your own with high school kids. I was NOT called to do that,” Michelle said as she chuckled. Service to others is really where Michelle’s heart is.

I had been dropping off a donation and ended up talking to a woman who had to walk with her little baby in a stroller to the hospital in the middle of winter on un-shoveled sidewalks, sometimes having to walk in the street with busy traffic. “I thought to myself . . . what’s wrong with this picture?”, Michelle said. In that moment God filled her heart.

“I’m so thankful for these opportunities for me to share.” Michelle knows not everyone is ready to hear The Word. But bringing the Kingdom to others, brings her closer to God in her own relationship.

6 VOICE of Compassion
ONE LOCATION FOR ALL DONATIONS!

NEW DONATION DROP OFF
MONDAY-FRIDAY
9:00AM-2PM
LIFE REVITALIZATION CENTER
1501 MONROE STREET
TOLEDO, OH 43604

COUNT DOWN TO THE HOLIDAYS

A meal can change everything. Hope begins with a meal and is leveraged into a conversation to create change and transformation. With over 80,000 meals to serve this fall, it will cost $2.28 per meal or $182,400 from now until the end of the year.

OUR COST OF $2.28
A MEAL IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF YOU:

- Volunteers at meals to offset costs and to allow staff to engage in meaningful conversations.
- Food donations to help us stock the pantry.
- Monetary donations to purchase the supplies needed.
- Each gift from you helps offset other costs associated with each meal.

OWN YOUR LOVE FOR LIBRARIES
USE YOUR PEOPLE TALENTS
USE YOUR COMPUTER SKILLS
TRAINED BY TLCPL & CSMM

DOWNTOWN LIBRARY
GET YOUR BOOK ON!
CONTACT SUSAN @ SGRAALMAN@CHERRYSTREETFMISSION.ORG
419.214.3419

TOLEDO LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
CHERRY STREET MISSION MINISTRIES

YOU:
A meal is only possible because of you!
TEAM BUILDING WITH A PURPOSE

Team Building at its best because it’s with a purpose. Organizations can participate in worthwhile projects that build their teams through serving together. Projects are numerous and varied.

- Paint a room
- Prepare a space for new purposes
- Sort donated items
- Create your own donation drive
- Serve a meal
- Maintenance
- Special Events

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- Maintenance
- Special Events

“We were busy enjoying each other’s company and the opportunity to connect with the community,” said Monty Johns

“F3 volunteers regularly because we feel we have a responsibility to help make our community a better place. Part of our mission is to invigorate community leadership and volunteering at Cherry Street provides us with an opportunity to see what the needs of our community are firsthand. We feel that investing our time is important to helping make a positive change in Toledo, our own lives, and hopefully somebody’s life that we meet while we’re there serving a meal,” said Bryan Riley

“OMNISOURCE’s commitment to the Cherry Street Mission has provided a platform for our employees to give back to the community and our employees have received much more in return than they could have ever imagined,” Rose Rollins

“We move through grief best when we are out, giving to others and surrounding ourselves with positive people. We want to be a part of an organization, like Cherry Street, that empowers the widows of WES&I to journey through the grief. Our motto is “Together we rise” and that’s what we are doing when we are volunteering at Cherry Street as it helps us and it helps the community,” said Idell Watson
Part of the Cherry Street Mission Ministry philosophy involves providing multi-faceted methods to restore the soul, spirit and mind of those who have lost hope. As Christ has done, Cherry Street looks for partners to provide best in class services and to show redemption.

As an aspect of that multi-faceted effort is to provide a place of quiet rest for contemplation. **In partnership with the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, Cherry Street has created a new space, open to the public.** In August, the main downtown library closed for renovation. This left many without a place to find quiet.

In response to the need, Cherry Street Mission Ministries (in partnership with the main branch) has opened its own community library on the 2nd floor of the Life Revitalization Center.

“As soon as the news was out about the main library closing, Cherry Street knew we needed to come up with a solution for those living in the central city who needed the resources offered by our Toledo-Lucas County Public Library,” says Dan Rogers, CEO of Cherry Street Mission Ministries.

“We are pleased to be working with Cherry Street to provide continuity of Library services to downtown residents. With both of our organizations always looking for ways to serve the community, this expanded partnership certainly eases the difficulty of the temporary closure while also providing a foundation for possible future collaborations,” says Meg Delaney, Main Library Manager.

The new space will be open to all and open to the public. It will include computers, internet access, a printer, quiet space, work tables, comfortable lounge chairs, and an entire collection of books.

**THE COST OF A DAY**

- **Security**
  - 1 Staff
  - 1 Volunteer

- **I Don’t Eat Alone**
  - 2 Staff
  - 5 Volunteers

- **Stability**
  - 2 Staff
  - 2 Volunteers

- **Access to Services**
  - 2 Staff
  - 5 Partners

- **Lunch with a Friend**
  - 2 Staff
  - 5 Volunteers

- **Mentoring**
  - 1 Staff
  - 2 Volunteers

- **Conversations & Advocacy**
  - 2 Staff
  - 2 Volunteers

- **Studying the Word**
  - 2 Volunteers

- **Building Relationships over a Meal**
  - 2 Staff
  - 5 Volunteers

- **Transportation**
  - 3 Volunteers

**PRICELESS**

**DOING MORE TOGETHER**

“WE ARE PLEASED TO BE WORKING WITH CHERRY STREET TO PROVIDE CONTINUITY OF LIBRARY SERVICES...”

THANK YOU TO...

- www.telesystem.us
- www.technicaledge.com
- www.toledolibrary.org

“Thank you to...”

*Voice* of Compassion 9
A big thank you to all the sponsors, golfers, volunteers, staff, silent auction donors & Highland Meadows Golf Club.
Thank you for partnering to further release God’s greatness into the community.

Join us in 2019!
Ending The Year Well
Get a head start on your year-end tax planning.

- IRA Charitable Rollover
- Outright Gift of an Asset
- Donor Advised Fund (DAF)
- Zero-Tax Gift and Sale

Here are some ways you can shift tax dollars to charitable dollars and support a cause like ours.

- IRA Charitable Rollover
- Outright Gift of an Asset
- Donor Advised Fund (DAF)
- Zero-Tax Gift and Sale

May We Help?
If you would like further information on these end-of-year planning strategies, please contact us. We can help you create a plan that meets your needs and goals.

If you would like additional information on ways to donate, contact Max Lambdin at mlambdin@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3009.

Donate Food
Your donations of food enable us to provide homeless and near-homeless men, women, and families with over 600-800 meals each day, in the form of hot meals. Food donations must have been prepared in ServSafe® method or donated as a whole, uncooked food.

Please bring your donations to:
Cherry Street’s Life Revitalization Center Building
1501 Monroe Street (former Macomber School)
Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Donate Non-Food Items
Your donations of non-food items provide dignity to our guests 365 days a year. We accept donations of toiletries, winter gear, socks, scrubs and underclothing for both men and women.

Please bring your donations to:
Cherry Street’s Life Revitalization Center Building
1501 Monroe Street (former Macomber School)
Weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Call 419-214-3007 for more information.

Donate Assets
Cherry Street accepts stocks, bonds, trusts, jewelry, real estate, boats, RVs, and other vehicles. If you would like additional information on ways to donate, contact Max Lambdin at mlambdin@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3009.

For more information about Cherry Street or the Voice of Compassion, contact Max Lambdin at mlambdin@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3009.